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2 February 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with John Marks, Staff Assistant to
Senator Clifford P. Case (R., N.J.)

STAT
1. In handling a rather routine constituent inquiry from Mr. George Harsh [redacted] which had been referred to us by the office of Senator Clifford P. Case (R., N.J.), I encountered Mr. John Marks of the Senator's staff. (We believe Marks is primarily responsible for developing Senator Case's position on Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty.)

2. As is customary, our suggested reply stated that the Agency is subject to the close scrutiny of not only the President and the National Security Council but also the Office of Management and Budget, the President's Advisory Board and the four Subcommittees of the Congress and made the point that the Agency's budget is given detailed review by the CIA Subcommittees of the Appropriation Committees.

3. Marks commented that our draft was not consistent with the position taken by the Senator in recent days. He asked if I was familiar with the Senator's statement about the Radios and I said indeed I was. I said the reply was our statement of the facts and a suggested format which, of course, could be changed by their office. Marks said he thought they would use the Agency pamphlet which I had also provided and merely state in a covering letter that the Agency does not comment on press allegations about its activities but that an official Agency pamphlet is enclosed for Mr. Harsh's information.

4. I took this opportunity to point out to Marks the statements in the pamphlet on the matter of supervision of the Agency. He said the pamphlet would be very useful and asked if I would provide him with additional copies which he might use in responding to future constituent inquiries about the Agency. I agreed to provide these.

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Deputy Legislative Counsel

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